Concordia Culture Shock

"...I had this picture in my head that Concordia would be on a beautiful campus outside the city, but when I walked into the Hall building I thought it was a shopping complex...,"

Feature on Malaysian students at Concordia -- page 9.

the Link

Concordia University
Montreal, Quebec

Volume 9, Number 5
Tuesday, September 20, 1988

AGENDA

The Agenda is a FREE service to publicise Concordia-related events. Space priority is given to non-profit and student groups. Drop off your info at our office in room 649 in the Hall Building, or mail it in, indicating AGENDA on the envelope. Deadlines are 5 p.m. Friday for Tuesday's issue, and 5 p.m. Wednesday for Friday's paper.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 20

Amateur Radio Club Meeting, H-644-1/H-333-6. See video tapes of emergency communications to Jamaica and summer emergency simulation station set up at Loyola Field. Info 848-7421.

Concordia Students for QPIRG general interest meeting (LOY) Hingston Hall HA-150 3-5 pm, free grub. Info 848-7410.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 21

General Interest Meeting (SGW) 3 -5pm H-333-6 for all those interested in student activism and Public Interest Research Groups. Lots of Free Grub. Info 848-7410.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22

Eric Kierans of the Institute for Research on Public Policy, on Can Small Nations Survive. 4 - 5:30 pm, Lonergan College, 7302 Sherbrooke W. info 848-2280. Refreshments.

Latin American Students Association General Assembly and election of new executive, 2010 Mackay Q-106.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 23

Public Speaking Seminar: coaching from the Concordia Debating Society, 2 pm, H-625. Everyone welcome.

Lesbian & Gay Friends of Concordia meeting, 2 pm, LGFC office, 2020 Mackay. Anyone interested in helping out in any way with LGFC this year is urged to attend. Info: 848-7414.

Independent Documentary in India Today, with Thomas Haugh. Recent films and videos, 7:30 pm, VA-114, Concordia Fine Arts Building, 1395 Dorchester W. All welcome.

Link Staff meeting. Every Friday at 4 pm. Everyone welcome. Exciting stuff.

GENERAL

Amateur Radio classes start Sept 27, 7pm, H-644-1. Get your own Amateur Radio License with our home study course. Details at our weekly meetings every tuesday night at 7pm, H-644-1. info 848-7421.

Did you know that when you registered, you were charged a "voluntary" Capital Campaign Fee of $1 per credit ($30 per full-time student)? If you want a refund, just go to either CUSA office and fill out a form(H-637 at Sir George or the basement of the Campus Centre.)

Paterson Ewen: The Montreal Years, at the Concordia Art Gallery, Sept 15-Oct22. FREE. 70 drawings and paintings from the late 40s to the end of the 60s, landscape to geometrics.

The Good Shepherd Centre needs friendly volunteers to releive the lonliness and isolation of seniors who live alone. Call Cathy Boisclair 933-7352.

Practice Room with piano, AD-121, Loyola, 11-3pm daily. Also record-lending library. Info 848-3510. FREE.

Louis Silverstein: le graphisme au New York Times, until October 2, Centre Design UQAM, info 282-3395.

Sign Language Workshops, offered by the Services for Disabled Students, start Mon Sept 26, 18h-20h(level2), Tue Sept 27 from 18h-20h(Introduction) and 20h15-22h15(level 1) 10 sessions, open to all students, faculty and staff. Limited enrollment. 848-3524.

EXPOSURE! An ongoing small-scale student art exhibit is being organized at Lonergan College. Non-Fine Art students preferred. Interested? Call Angela 848-2280.

Nominations for Board of Directors By-Elections open until September 30. Apply at H-637(Sir George) or SC-103(Loyola). Positions open on BOD for Fine Arts and Engineering students.

AIESEC Career Week- H-110, seminars on how to write a good C.V.; the interview; starting your own business; career planning and stress management.

Debating Society Meetings every Wednesday 7 pm, H-333-6, and every Friday 2 pm, H-625. Info 848-7412.

WOMENS' LISTINGS

Montreal Sexual Assault Centre needs concerned, bilingual,women, interested in volunteering on the telephone crisis line. Training session September 17. Info 934-4504.

Dykes on Mikes every Wednesday at 2:30 pm on Radio McGill CKUT FM 90.3.

Women's Radio: Matrix, Saturdays 10:30 - 11:30 am. Woman Friday, 10:30 -11pm, Friday. Radio Centreville, 102.3 FM info 495-2597

Lesbian Studies at Concordia! The Lesbian Studies Coalition of Concordia holds its first organizational meeting of the term. Come and find out about a non-heterosexist education! All lesbians and women, students, faculty or staff welcome! Ongoing Wednesdays, 3 pm, 2170 Bishop, lounge. Info Concordia Women's Centre 848-7431.

We are back this year with renewed energy and are looking forward to welcoming new members. For more info: 848-7443. Watch for info on meetings and events on the Women's Collective.

CLASSIFIED ADS

We do NOT take classifieds by phone. Rates: 20 cents a word for Concordia students, 25 cents per word for non-students and business ads. Deadlines are 5 p.m. Friday for Tuesday's issue, and 5 p.m. Wednesday for Friday's issue. Come to room 649 in the Hall Building, to fill out one of our painless ad forms. Ads MUST be accompanied by payment, or they will not run.

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con't on pg. 6

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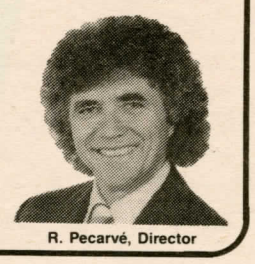

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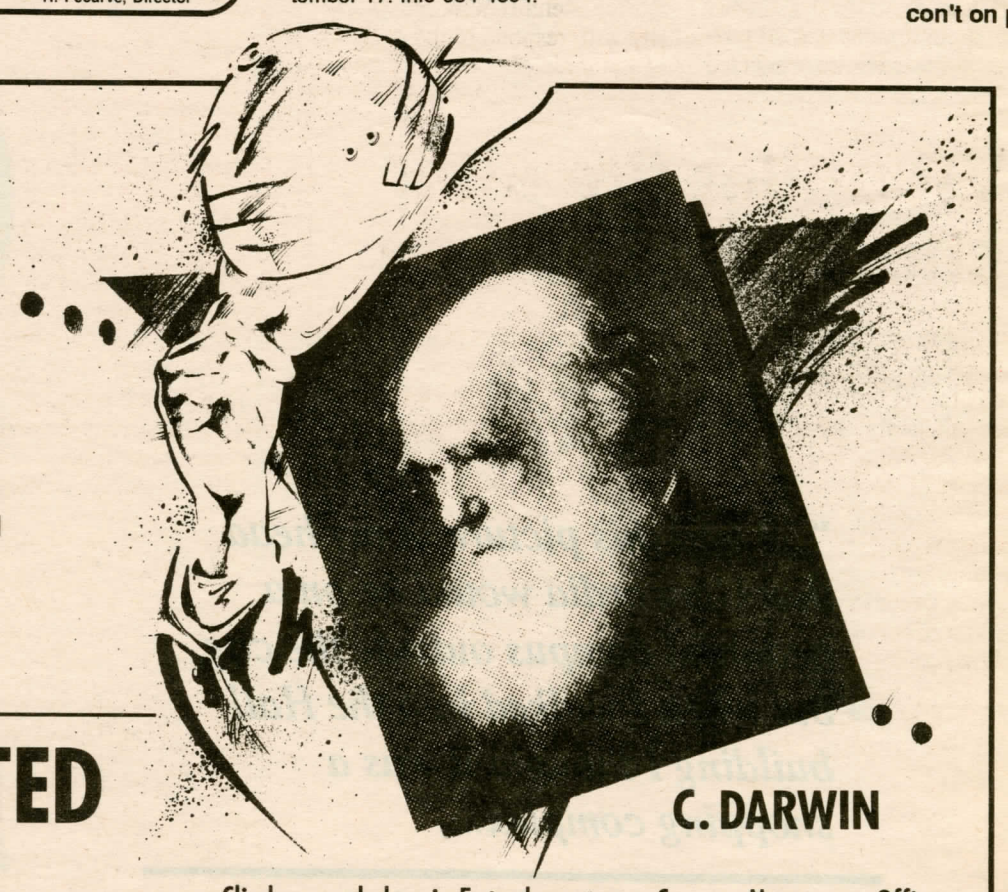

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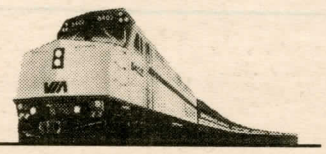

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After initial denials

University admits storing PCBs

by Aaron Derfel

After a week of denials, the Concordia administration admitted at Friday's senate meeting to storing PCBs on campus.

The announcement came three days after *the Link* revealed that the university has been using a total of 1,545 litres of PCB-contaminated oil in electrical equipment. According to services vice-rector Charles Giguere, the university stores a total of 28 litres of PCB-contaminated oil and chemicals on the 11th floor of the Hall building.

The stored PCBs are not listed in a federal-provincial inventory made public two weeks ago. Giguere said he does not know when the stored PCBs were last inspected.

While university administrators claim they were unaware of the stored PCBs until late last week, an Environment Quebec official said Concordia should have known about their storage all along.

Donald Pepin, head of the industrial section of waste materials for Environment Quebec, said yesterday that the university's ignorance of the stored PCBs is not "very responsible."

"We issued a communique saying that people who have any hazardous waste that we don't know about, should tell us. There's a new committment that all hazardous waste sites be inspected frequently," he added.

Provincial and federal governments agreed September 8 to pass stricter regulations on PCB storage and inspections following the PCB warehouse fire in St. Basile le Grand August 23. The fire forced the 18-day evacuation of 3,500 residents and sent a toxic cloud over the region.

The Quebec government enacted legislation earlier this month requiring inspection of all PCB storehouses by the end of November and the removal of stored PCBs from office buildings by the end of February.

Provincial Environment minister Clifford Lincoln has said repeatedly that the government would place first priority in removing PCBs from hospitals and schools. The minister also promised to phase out PCBs still in use by 1993.

Although the hazardous waste legislation has been in effect for almost two weeks, the university administration was unaware of it until late yesterday afternoon.

When told of the new provincial regulations, Giguere said, "Of course we're unaware of the new legislation. By the time things like that percolate down, it takes ages."

At Friday's meeting, student senator Yun Jen asked Rector Patrick Kenniff how the university will respond to the presence of the toxic chemical compound on campus.

Kenniff said the university would like to remove the active PCBs as well as the stored ones but is first waiting for an order from the provincial government.

"We have a strategy of action with respect to the management and elimination of PCBs, which I think we decided to act on a little more quickly after the psychological disaster which took place in St. Basile le Grand," he said.

But the university has not yet checked the PCB sites nor contacted the government. Pepin said the new regulations could apply to

continued on page 7

Photo by Barbara Davidson

the Link

Concordia solicits DND dollars

Army bucks scare students

by Alison Brown

Concordia's political science department application for a grant from the Department of National Defence (DND) is worrying some students.

The grant, distributed under the heading "Military and Strategic Studies Program" would allow the university to hire a full-time professor to study strategic initiatives.

"We want to set up a centre for teaching and research. We are hoping to become the main centre for strategic studies in Quebec," said Political Science chairperson Henri Habib.

Some members of the Concordia University Students Association (CUSA) feel the university should not receive money from potentially biased sources.

"This is not something Concordia should be involved in. It is very ugly and not appropriate," said CUSA co-president Andrew Madsen.

In 1984, Concordia students voted in a referendum to declare the university a Military Free Zone, which would prohibit all military research and recruiting on campus. The referendum, however, is not binding on the university.

Madsen said if the university is to receive funding from the DND, equal amounts of money should be provided for peace courses.

"There should be equal amounts of time for peace studies. People should be studying warfare without the proliferation of arms," said Madsen.

"Being underfunded, universities often feel they have to go for tainted money because they are so strapped for cash," he said.

The political science department, however, has no qualms about applying for the grant.

"We would be autonomous from the DND. Canadian defence money is different from the U.S. In Canada, we are not tied up in major problems like the U.S. in the global situation," said Habib. "We play a minor role. They (DND) cannot dictate to us," he said.

Although the DND claims the grants are to "encourage research and teaching, provide scholarships to Canadian graduate students and promote the discussion of related matters among interested Canadians," it also has other plans in mind.

"The program will develop young minds for recruitment in the Defence Ministry," said Martin Tomkin, directorate of public policy with the Department of National Defence.

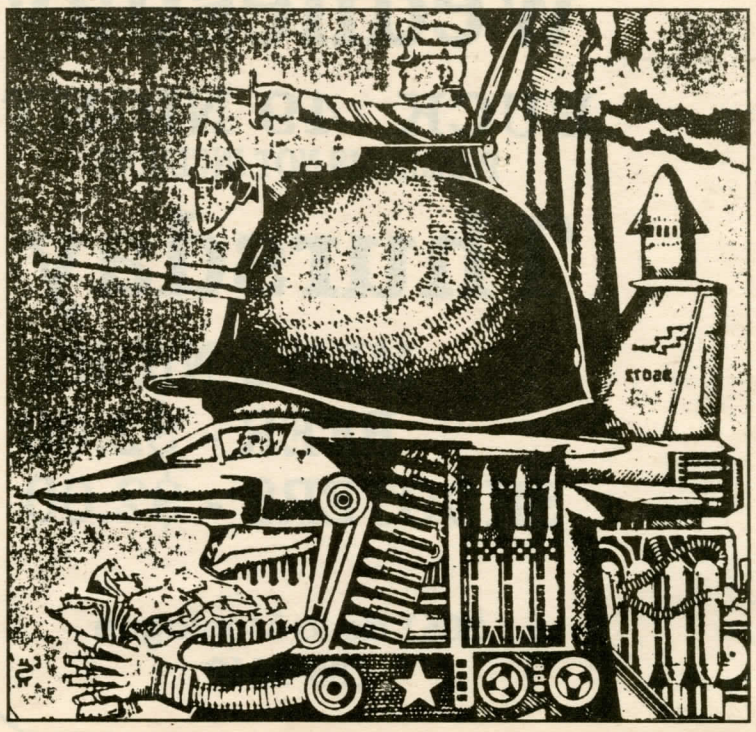
"I myself am an offshoot of the Military and Strategic Studies Program (MSS)," said Tomkin.

The DND currently funds MSS programs in 10 Canadian universities.

Dalhousie, Universite de Laval, Queen's, York, University of British Columbia and University of Calgary receive $100,000 a year each.

The University of Acadia, Universite de Montreal, University of Manitoba and Carleton University receive $75,000 each.

An additional four universities will receive MSS funding by the end of 1989.



VP under fire after shoving employee

by Max Wallace

A student association executive is facing criminal charges after allegedly assaulting a CUSA employee last week.

The incident occurred during a meeting of the CUSA executive last Wednesday afternoon. Orientation co-coordinator Barbara Davidson knocked on the door of her office where the meeting was taking place.

"I didn't want to disturb the meeting but I needed to get some important contracts from my filing cabinet," she recalled. "The CUSA External Vice President Francois Lefebvre got up, opened the door and, before I could tell him what I needed, he slammed the door in my face."

She persisted and banged on the door.

"This time, Lefebvre darted towards the door, flung it open, and grabbed me while shouting, 'You want to fight, come on let's fight' and shoved me towards the wall."

She said that at that point, a student bystander jumped on Lefebvre to restrain him and Davidson left to call the police, who arrived shortly after. According to a Station 25 police report, Davidson had red marks on her throat when police interviewed her.

"I hardly even know the guy," she said. "There was no reason for him to attack me, it doesn't make any sense."

In a report she submitted to CUSA about the incident yesterday, Davidson demanded the vice president external be asked to resign.

Shortly after she submitted the report, Lefebvre tendered his resignation at an executive meeting called to discuss the incident.

After the meeting, co-president Nick Woollard refused to say whether CUSA had demanded the resignation.

"CUSA's not happy with the whole situation," said Woollard, adding that an official statement will be released today.

Davidson said she is pleased with the result but she will not let the case rest with his resignation. She is filing a complaint under the university's non-academic code of conduct where Lefebvre could face penalties ranging from a fine to expulsion from Concordia if he is found guilty.

Lefebvre was unavailable for comment.

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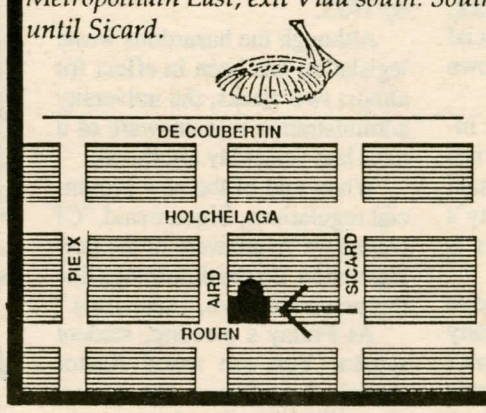

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Women take back the night

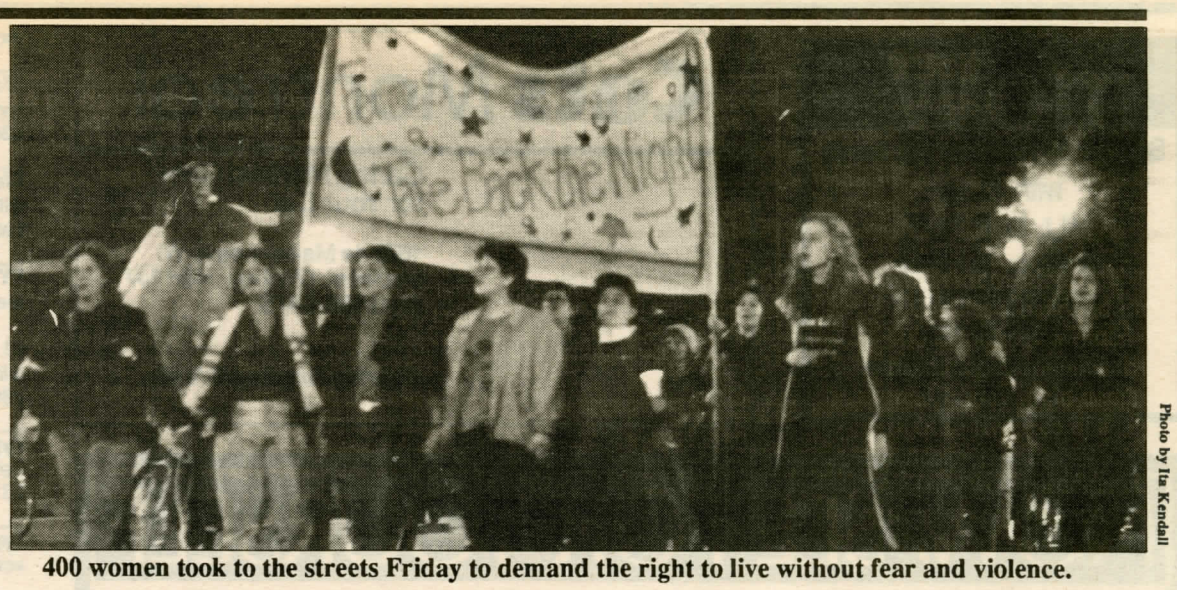


Photo by Ita Kendall

400 women took to the streets Friday to demand the right to live without fear and violence.

by Heidi Modro

Candles in hand and arms linked, 400 Montreal women marched from Parc Lafontaine to old Montreal Friday night demanding the right to live free of fear and violence.

They were participating in Montreal's eighth annual "Take Back The Night" march. First organised in San-Francisco 10 years ago to demand the right for women to walk through the streets at night without fear, the march has since spread across North America.

"We're here tonight to take up the space we don't get the rest of the 364 days a year," said Susan O'Donnell from Concordia's Women Centre. "Traditionally, the night has been a time where a woman has had to stay home for fear of endangering her safety. We want to change that and show that we've as much right as anyone else to be on the street."

The women marched down busy St-Denis street to the chants of "Women unite take back, the night" and "La rue, la nuit, les femmes sans peur." Many onlookers cheered and clapped, but a few men were skeptical

"I don't know what they're complaining about. In Montreal, it's as dangerous for a man as for a woman to walk through the streets," said one male cafe patron.

Denise Filion, a sexual assault councillor from Chateauguay, left her husband and children at home because she wanted "to sensitize people that it's not right that women must face so many fears both in their home and on the street."

"A man is not as conditioned as a woman to be passive," she said. "When a woman is faced with danger she's not trained to have the right reflexes as men do."

Men were not invited to join the march. A few still did but remained at the very back of the march.

"I understand why women would not want us to participate. They have to prove they have the confidence to do this alone," said Etienne Espinet.

Coordinator for the march Mary Lamey from the Montreal's Women Coalition said that if men wanted to participate they should stay home and baby-sit the children of women who wanted to march.

Lamey said there were about 200 less women at this year's march because of the partial postal strike.

Downtown rape alert

Cops counsel caution

by Heidi Modro

Following a recent spate of sexual assaults and muggings, police are warning Concordia students to be on their guard in the downtown area at night.

"We've had several muggings these past three weeks and there have also been more cases of sexual assault," said Station 25 crime prevention officer Pierre Fortin.

"Without wanting to cause panic we would like to warn students, and women in particular, of certain dangers."

Fortin referred to five sexual assaults and a dozen muggings that have occured since mid-August in the downtown area.

The sexual assaults have all been against women between the ages of 18 and 25.

The latest attack occurred early last Thursday when a woman was sexually assaulted in the elevator of her de Maisonneuve Blvd. apartment building.

The previous Sunday a 25-year-old woman was raped at 1 am in a lane off Fort street by a six-foot-tall, 185-pound male.

The day before, a 21-year-old woman was attacked at a construction site on Ste. Catherine St. between the Bay and Eaton department stores by a 33-year-old, 150 lb male with brown hair.

Fortin urges female students leaving the university at night not to walk alone, to stay away from dark alleyways and to walk on the curb in the direction opposite traffic.

If a woman is being attacked she should scream, try to run away, and get a description of her assailant. Women are also advised to take a self-defense course.

"Montreal's downtown centre has great ambiance. Nevertheless there are risks," said Concordia intramural coordinator Vlad Pavlicik who is promoting a self-defense course at Concordia.

"Rape is very often a surprise thing. The worst element women have to battle is fear. With a course in self-defense they can acquire basic skills to ward off an attack."

Concordia's Athletics department is offering a 13-week women's self-defense course starting this Saturday at 11 am. More information can be obtained by calling 848-3460.

Councillor at the Montreal Assault Prevention Centre Leona Heillig also recommends self-defense courses but advices women to take a course taught and designed by women called ACTION.

"The disadvantage of a course taught by men is that it perpetuates the feeling that women depend on men to be taught to be protected," she said

"Women have to be taught they can do it by themselves."

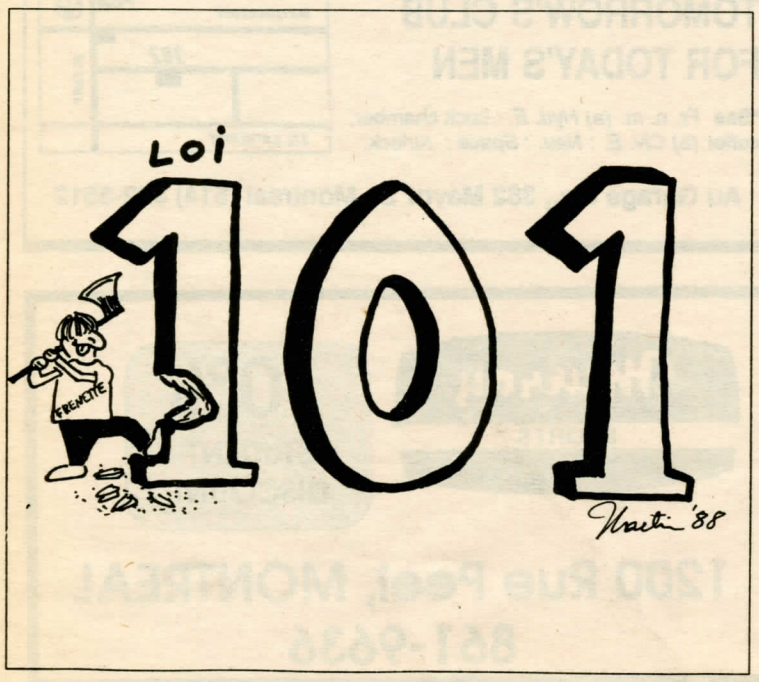
Women interested in the ACTION course should call the Montreal Assault Prevention Centre at 284-1212.

Fortin also warns Concordia students to watch out for muggings.

In the last three weeks over a dozen of them have taken place between 6 am and 12 am.

The assailants tended to be males between the age of 20 and 35 who used either knives, revolvers or physical force to coerce money out of victims.

Fortin advises students not to carry much money and if attacked to scream and to attempt to run away. If this fails, victims should at least try to get a description of the assailant.



CUSA flip-flops on sign petition

by Scott McCulloch

CUSA has revoked its support for a bilingual sign lobby group which compares Quebec's language laws to South Africa's apartheid system.

At an emergency board of directors meeting last week, CUSA concluded that the coordinator of Entente Cordiale, Jacques Frenette — whose group was desribed as "shadowy" by the Gazette last week — was too radical and their original decision to support him was too hasty.

At the meeting, CUSA's board questioned Frenette about his emotional outbursts comparing Quebec to South Africa.

"Quebec does not roll tanks into the streets of Montreal and shoot at English-speaking people," said CUSA judicial board member Lynn Calliste.

Calliste told the meeting that CUSA should be wary of Entente Cordiale because not enough is known about the group and its goals.

"I'm not sure where his (Frenette) head is coming from," said Calliste. "CUSA doesn't know what his hidden agenda is."

In a last ditch effort to persuade CUSA to support EntenteCordiale's sign petition, Frenette spoke to the board about easing tensions between English and French.

During a stormy hour-long shouting match, Frenette again linked Quebec's Bill 101 to South Africa's apartheid system.

"It is not right for the French to impose restrictions on the English. It's discrimination," Frenette said. "Any form of discrimination is a form of apartheid."

In an interview with the Link three weeks ago, Frenette said: "It's an apartheid (in Quebec) where you segregate. In the philosophical reasoning of the sign it's South Africa."

At last week's meeting, Frenette said that section 58 of Bill 101, which specifies that commercial signs must be uniquely in French, is dividing Quebecers.

If amended it could end tension between Quebec's language groups, according to Frenette.

"It (Bill 101) promotes hatred which is taught and perpetuated in the system. We don't think you can correct a wrong by creating a wrong," said Frenette, who describes himself as an ex-separatist.

CUSA board member Haytham Yah'ya said CUSA's original support for Frenette was rash.

"Why couldn't this person have been interviewed more before we made our decision? We look very vulnerable now," he said.

CUSA co-president Nick Woollard said he is equally concerned with the board's research on Frenette's background.

"The issue is not whether the petition is good or bad. It's Frenette, we don't know what motivates him.

"We know very little about this group," he said.

Little is known about Entente Cordiale or Frenette. Frenette describes the group as a "politically non-aligned, non-violent, and non-partisan group." He said the group is made up of 30 influential Quebecers who wish to remain anonymous.

Frenette, who describes himself as an industrial investment consultant for a U.S. firm he will not identify for "personal reasons," is aligned with two honorary chairpersons, Louis Dussault formerly of the Commission de protection de la langue francaise and novelist Hugh MacLennan.

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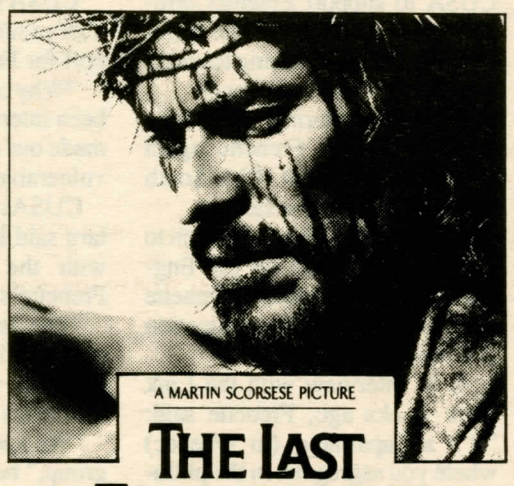

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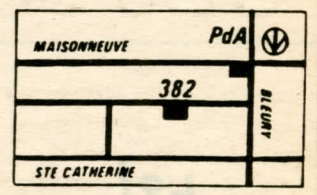

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No babies on board

Baby bounced from bus

by Nantha Kumar

Lauren Jessica is only three-weeks-old, and already she's facing problems with the university's bureaucracy.

Last week, she was sleeping peacefully in a Snuggly when her mother boarded the shuttle bus at Loyola campus. Unable to control her urge for another feed, baby Jessica started crying. This alerted the bus driver.

"The bus driver wouldn't have noticed if Jessica hadn't cried," said Lauren's mother, second-year geography student Sheila Smail.

"But she did and the bus driver told me to get off.

"The driver said my daughter is not attending university and therefore should not be in the bus," said Smail.

Both Smail and her husband Greg Mercer are Concordia students. They have courses at both campusus, and take turns caring for Jessica.

"I am breastfeeding my baby and she has to be with me during those times. It's not as if I am coming into the bus with several kids."

"They should make some exceptions when the mother is breastfeeding, or if the baby is still very small. Afterall, Concordia prides itself as being a progressive university and then it discriminates against newborns," said Smail.

But Concordia transportation officer Larry Talbot said the university's bus service is only for students.

"It's very clear. The shuttle bus is for Concordia students to get from one campus to the other," he said.

Talbot said he has had problems with parents using the shuttle to transport their children from Layola campus to downtown and back.

"The shuttle service is not meant for that. And the insurance company does not insure children on the bus, and if we do allow children, they (the insurance company) will increase our premium," said Talbot.

He refused to name the company insuring the shuttle bus or the additional cost of insuring children on the bus. According to physical plant director Frank Papineau, depending on the situation, some exceptions can be made.

"This is the first time I'm hearing of a breastfeeding mother who wants to take her baby on the shuttle," said Papineau.

"I know children are not supposed to use the service, but this is a special case, and I'll take it into consideration."

Photo by Jeff Haltrecht

Sheila Smail holds her daughter Lauren Jessica after the two were unceremoniously ousted from Concordia's shuttle bus.

Protesting against dumb animals

by Heidi Modro

Protesting the use of animals in cosmetic experiments, Concordia's Animal Rights Association held a demonstration in front of the Lise Watier headquarters on Saturday.

"We want to expose Montreal consumers to the fact that a local company like Lise Watier is unnecessararily using animals for cosmetic testing purposes," said CARA coordinator Wendy Dow.

"What they're doing to animals is systematic torture." Dow said CARA chose the Lise Watier company because Watier herself is a member of the Concordia Board of Governors.

"We feel she should not be on the Board. She has a responsibility towards us. What she is doing to animals is wrong," Dow said.

The Lise Watier cosmetics company uses animals for two types of tests. The first is the Draize test which consists of keeping the eye of a rabbit opened for two to three weeks with a bracket and pouring nail polish, nail polish remover and other cosmetics into it to see how the animal reacts.

Dow says many of the rabbits break their backs and die from the writhing pain.

The second test is the LD 50 per cent. This test force feeds animals with different substances until 50 per cent of the animals die.

CARA claims that both these tests are useless and that safe alternatives exist: the Draize test can be avoided by using the embryo of a chicken and the LD 50 per cent tests is unscientific since animals do not die from the toxicity but from ruptured intestines caused by the overfeeding.

Dow claims the only reason for not stopping the harmful research techniques is an economic one. She says cosmetics companies could use proven methods and substances and thus bypass research.

"Cosmetic companies are going crazy because there is a zero per cent growth rate in their industry," said Dow.

"Lise Watier is looking for any way she can find to achieve faster and cheaper results so she can make more profits."

Spokesperson for the the Lise Watier company Christiane Courtois said that the matter is under study.

"Mrs. Watier is assembling all the information about the accusations that are being brought against the company and she will express her position once the matter has been thoroughly looked at."

Students march for human rights

by Ralph Cochrane

Led by a mock military junta, over 1,500 students marched last Saturday from Lafontaine Park to the Olympic stadium as part of Montreal's Amnesty International awareness campaign.

Marchers chanted "avec Amnestie ca marche","liberte, liberte, liberte!" (Amesty works...liberty!) and encouraged passing drivers to sound their horns in support.

The event began with several political prisoners freed by Amnesty recounting their prison ordeals.

The human rights group is celebrating 40th anniversary of the United Nations's Charter of Rights and Freedoms with a series of concerts worldwide sensitizing people to human rights abuses.

Over half the member states of the United Nations infringe on their citizens' rights and freedoms, according to Amnesty.

Despite their obectives of working on behalf of all political prisoners, the group has been frequently accused of hypocrisy for refusing to lobby for the release of gay and lesbian political prisoners.

The world organization has often voted against remedying this inconstistency — prompting boycotts by many groups against Amnesty.

PCBs stored on campus

continued from page 3

Concordia, which could mean that the university will have to remove the stored PCBs by February.

Kenniff said the university is "waiting for some indication of how the government is going to assist us to dispose of those PCBs at the earliest possible date. We don't know how to dispose the PCBs at the present time and that's a serious problem we're facing."

Pepin added that his department would contact Concordia to find out more details about the PCB storage.

Jen, who is organizing an environmental research group on campus, said she was not impressed with Kenniff's answer.

"I'm still not satisfied with the way they're handling this problem," she said. "We have a potential danger and the university is treating it lightly."

The stored PCBs are located in a locked room inside sealed containers within the chemistry department. The contained PCBs are mixed inside chemicals once used in experiments, and in electrical equipment formerly in service by campus radio station CRSG.

PCBs are also used in electrical equipment in power stations on the Loyola and Sir George Williams campuses.

Prolonged exposure to PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) can cause liver, reproductive and respiratory disorders. PCBs are a suspected cancer-causing substance and have been linked to brain and liver cancer in laboratory rats.

The chemicals cannot decompose naturally, and can only be destroyed by an incinerator at 1,200 degrees centigrade. If PCBs burn at any temperature lower, they emit carcinogenic dioxins and furans — both of which are far more hazardous. These chemical compounds eventually end up in the food chain.

PCBs were widely used as coolants and lubricants in electrical equipment until 1977, when the federal government banned them after fears were raised about their potential health hazards.

The government did not outlaw PCBs, which were already in use in transformers and capacitors, because it considered the chemicals well-insulated inside the equipment.

See editorial page 15.

News Briefs

"I have a gub."

An attempted robbery at Concordia's credit union Thursday turned out like a scene from a Woody Allen movie as the would-be thieves panicked before they could reap their booty.

The attempt took place at 3:15 p.m. when two men entered the Strathcona credit union — located in a Mackay Street university annex — asking to see the manager.

When the loan officer appeared at the counter, one of the men threatened him, saying "I will shoot. I have a gun." The loan officer ran, causing the two robbers to panic and flee.

- Louise Gagnon

Hurricane hamming

Members of Concordia's amateur radio club were kept busy last week supplying Montreal media outlets with information on Hurricane Gilbert.

The windstorm — which shook Jamaica and damaged 80 per cent of the 500,000 homes on the Caribbean island — destroyed media station control towers.

Jamaican ham radio operators were the only people able to broadcast. Broadcasters such as Concordia's amateur radio club were picking up reports that commercial stations were missing.

"We are receiving reports from other operators like ourselves," said Peter Kom, a member of the amateur radio club.

"We pass on information. Today for example we heard that police had orders to shoot looters but this was unofficial," said Kom.

Kom said amateur radio operators are often relied upon to supply anxious callers with information in emergency situations such as last week's hurricane.

Ham radio operator Kom reported live to CBC's Dennis Trudeau last Thursday, describing the widespread devastation across the island.

A toast to Reggie

'Reggie,' the Concordia janitor immortalised by Reggie's pub, died last week at the age of 64.

Kelly Mackenzie, present manager of Reggie's, remembered a man concerned with the welfare of students. "He would do things like trying to get the beer prices lowered," Mackenzie said.

"You know how the washrooms are all the way across the seventh floor? Reggie offered to pay to have them moved closer to the pub. The university refused."

Reggies' involvement and popularity with students led to CUSAs' decision to name the pub after him. There are plans to erect a plaque there in his memory.

A memorial service will be held Thurdsay.

- Ralph Cochrane

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Thanks Ron for the binoculars, Tracy & Bruce were GGRRRREAT!!!

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Lost- Cost Accounting book in Room 101CC on Sept 15 at 1pm, If found contact Debbe at 487-1916.

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Found: Kevin I found your bus pass. Pick it up at Loyola Security.

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Malaysian students at Concordia

Concordia culture shock

by Nantha Kumar

A woman rides up the Hall building escalator wearing a scarfthat covers her head, hair, ears and neck. Her bright long-sleeved blouse and ankle-length skirt are conspicuous in the crowd of jean-clad students. She is joined by two young women, similarly dressed.

They are part of a group of 43 Malaysian students enrolled at Concordia this semester.

Most of these students were supposed to study in Australian universities. But quota restrictions by the Australian government on this year's foreign student intake forced the Malaysian education ministry to look for alternative universites.

The students have come here to acquire degrees which they hope will translate into jobs once they return to Malaysia. But employment prospects for foreign graduates are not bright in Malaysia. The glut in foreign graduates returning to the country is high. The global recession of 1985 did not help, and the 1986 budget cuts by Finance Minister Datuk Paduka Daim Zainuddin pushed the unemployment rate up to 10 per cent.

Still, the Malaysian students hope they can overcome this trend, learn about Canadian life and adapt to its culture. They realize the process will not be easy.

CULTURAL CLASHES

All the new Malaysian students are Muslim. And, of the 28 female students, some wear the Malaysian version of the Muslim veil Locally called the mini-telekong, a scarf which covers the hairline, ears and neck, the veil often causes heads to turn on campus.

"Canadian students are sometimes shocked at the way we are dressed. But when I explain that it's our religion and tradition to dress this way, they seem to understand," says Rosni Musa, a first-year economics student.

In Malaysia, a large majority of Muslim women dress according to the Islamic code. Getting stared at by Canadians is something that Musa and her other female friends will have to get used to.

"My religion requires that I cover up certain parts of my body. I don't see anything wrong with that," explains Musa.

These young women also wear their traditional Malay dress — a combination of a long-sleeved blouse and an ankle-length skirt. Some, however, opt for jeans and t-shirts occasionally.

Muslim men are not required to cover their hairline, so most Western forms of clothing are allowed. Among Malaysian male students, jeans are very common since the pants are also worn back home.

For Musa and other Malaysian students, it's their first time away from home, and living in a large city could be intimidating. But, that has not been the case.

"I love living downtown. It's close to the Hall building," says Musa. She had very different ideas about what Concordia would look like before she arrived in Montreal.

"I had this picture in my head that Concordia would be on a beautiful campus outside the city, but when I walked into the Hall building I thought it was a shopping complex," says Musa,smiling.

For most students, the fall weather has been mild, but Asmat Nizam from the tin-rich state of Perak is suffering from "weather-shock."

"It's too cold here. I thought it would be culture-shock that I would be suffering from," he says.

But Nizam adds he's used to big city living and places like porno theaters, which are illegal in Malaysia, don't bother him.

Abdul Rahman, the son of a rice farmer from the state of Negri Sembilan in peninsula Malaysia, has adapted to Montreal life quickly.

Rahman likes living downtown. "It's great. I love the metro because it's so efficient. And the roads here are not like in Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia." On Friday night, Rahman and some of his friends went for the first time, to see their favourite heavy metal band, the Scorpions, play live at the Forum. Back home, a live Scorpion concert was cancelled because officials felt foreign bands were a bad influence on the local culture.

"The Scorpions are a very popular group back home, but the government cancelled their live concert at the very last minute. I wouldn't have missed this concert for anything," says Rahman.

What binds Malaysian students together is their religion. Asmat Nizam and the other Malaysian students attend communal prayers in the prayer-room on the third floor of the Hall building. "It's not possible to attend all the prayer session because I have classes that clash with it," says Rahman.

HOPE IN CONCORDIA

Photo by Ramin Mahjouri

Despite the minor problems of course scheduling, the students are satisfied with the university. Concordia was an obvious choice because Malaysian students have been studying here for several years now.

Tuan Haji Abu Hanifah is the Malaysian education ministry official responsible for the 43 new Malaysian students at Concordia. In a telephone interview from the Malaysian Students Department (MSD) office in Toronto, Hanifah said the new students are part of a group of 280 students now studying in Canada. "These students have all done their South Australian matriculation (equivalent to grade 13 or CEGEP) at the Mara Institute of Technology in Malaysia, and were supposed to go toAustralia.

"But, when we found out that not all could go to Australia, welooked for places in Canadian universities, including Concordia," he explained. The MSD has 27 officers to co-ordinate and care for Malaysian government-sponsored students. The Malaysian government has a special program to help Malays and native people by giving them scholarships to study overseas. Over the years the number of Malay and native graduates in engineering, economics, TESL, and english mushroomed to well over b20,000 in Malaysia. This has led to a high rate of unemployment bamong foreign graduates during the 1985-86 recession.

According to Hanifah, the Malaysian government spends an average of $30,000 Canadian per student on tution for a three- year programme. "This does not include airfare, food and lodging, books, and health insurance. But it's worth the money because students get the exposure of studying in a new environment," he said. Currently, there are several thousand Malaysian-Chinese and Indian students studying in Canada. Most of them, however, are self-sponsored students (mainly Chinese) studying in Toronto. In the past, Concordia has had only a handful of Malaysian students, but this year, Concordia's International Student Advisor Fred Francis was taken by surprise.

"I was not given ample notice about the arrival of these 43 students. I was contacted by the MSD two days before they came to Montreal.

"Fortunately with the help of our Southeast Asian Students' Association we pulled together a special orientation session for these new students," said Francis.

Haris Hussain, a final-year student, helped the new students find accomondation in the downtown area. "For the first few days we just put them up with second and third-year students. We had a senior acting as a group leader to about four new students. These group leaders had to show the new students around the university, take them shopping and basically make life easy for them," says Hussain.

Hussain notes that it took quite a bit of planning and organising because of the large number of students, and that Malaysian students studying at McGill university also helped out. Malaysian male students are not allowed to live with female students. So, most students divide themselves into groups of four or five and rent apartments in the downtown area.

This communal living means mutual co-operation in doing housework, cooking meals, or going down to a Halal butchery on St. Laurent boulevard, the closest Muslim kosher butcher downtown.

"We are adjusting well to Canada and Montreal, and thanks to help given to us, we are doing well," says Rahman. Previously, all returning government-sponsored graduates were assured a job with the Malaysian civil service or with one of its agencies, but now this is not possible. The government had to introduce a temporary service scheme which entitles an unemployed graduate to a temporary job and $400 cheque inMalaysian currency.

But the students still have faith in Malaysia's future. The economy is growing at a rate of eight per cent a year, and Finance Minister Zainuddin's cutbacks in government spending are expected to put the country in the black. The budgetary cutbacks coupled with new incentives to attract foreign investment have already payed off. Hopefully, say Concordia's new students, more jobs will be created by the timethey graduate.

One Susan - and a

by Elena Lonero

Everybody gets fooled by their name, *Band of Susans*. They are definitely not an all-female cute pop excuse for a record company to make money, as their name suggests. Anyone who actually listens to the music will immediately realize the first impression is a mistake.

In fact, the lead singer and two other members of the band are men. Their distorted "sick guitar" sound is more similar to *Sonic Youth* than to *The Bangles*. Every member has extensive experience in the music industry, they are all dedicated to the band and the music they create.

"If our main goal was to make money, we wouldn't be musicians." said **Susan Stenger**, bassist and last remaining Susan.

Just the simple fact that everybody - companies, reviewers, and music fans - instinctively think of the stereotypical "girlie group" when they hear the name, proves that a stereotype still exists and thrives in the industry. Women are often considered by bands simply as profitable gimmicks rather than meaningful and talented participants.

"If our main goal was to make money, we wouldn't be musicians."

However, the situation has changed dramatically in the past ten years. Stenger cited examples like *Salem 66*, *Pussy Galore*,*Ut*, and *Lydia Lunch*.

"There will always be that sleazy aspect in the record industry," she said, "but it's encouraging to see so many talented women. Even some artists like *Joan Jett* - no matter what you think of her music, she's doing what she wants".

She went on to say that most of her male musical hereos were androgynous, such as *Iggy Pop*, *New York Dolls*, and *Keith Richards*.

"It was the way I grew up, I refused to limit myself because of my sex. I would identify with the protagonist of a story, like Tom Sawyer, whether they were male or female - not the protagonist's girlfriend". She understands why women would want to form all-female bands to avoid the "rock 'n roll boys club attitude". However, "neither of us (the two female band members) looked at rock 'n roll as alien turf because of our gender".

She describes the Band of Susans as a "gender-integrated band". "All the members are political and feminist. The women are not 'upfront chicks', they are all just in the band". No male-female hierarchy exists.

When singer **Robert Poss** formed the band two years ago, three of the members had the name Susan. Now, Stenger is the only one that remains. **Susan Tallman** and **Susan Lyall** have left because they no longer had the time to put into the band.

People who were familiar with the band as it started up, began calling it "the band of Susans". So they decided to keep the name. It reflects their sense of humour and an attitude that they are serious about their music rather than their image.

"The sound treads a fine line between experimental noise or grunge and pop. It reaches some kind of weird balance between them," said Stenger.

No review of the band could ever lack the word 'guitar'. No less than three lead guitars work simultaneously to create a "monolithic wall of sound". Diehard Madonna fans probably won't go for this music, but the Susans have some "quite pop-sounding" songs on their latest album, *Hope Against Hope*.

The guitars define the music, they are noisy and very dense but this does not eliminate the structure or melody. The vocals are worked into the noise texture, used as another instrument instead of upfront.

Reviewers resort to such esoteric phrases as "borderless miasma of interference, a pall of cosmic tinnitus", "repetitive shards of guitar laden sound invade your celebral cortex", and "overtones warble mercurial melo-

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■

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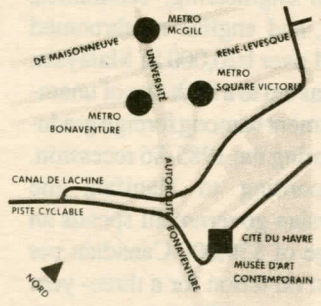

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Celluloid à la carte

by Christopher Noxon

Alan Rudolf's movies are as much meals as they are movies. They're digested as much as viewed. You sink your teeth into the rich imagery, his characters are full of subtle textures and tastes, and he always leaves your belly bulging in the end.

A recipe for his latest dish, titled *The Moderns*:

1) Serve in an intricate historical setting.

The Moderns is a portrait of the 1923 Paris intellectual hothouse - complete with a boozing Ernest Hemingway, a socialite Gertrude Stein and a colorful blend of art dealers, collectors, hangers-on, imitators and imitators of imitators.

However, this certainly is not a docu-drama. The atmosphere has all the trademark Rudolf lapses of detatched surrealism, yet the historical references serve as a steady springboard to dive from.

Rudolf's only major flaw has been his settings, which suffer from a uncomfortable lack of concrete reality. In his second film, *Trouble In Mind*, the setting is the semi-futuristic land Rain City, and his last film, *Made in Heaven*, is partially set behind the pearly gates of heaven.

Consequently, he has created a series of gritty modern fantasies whose stories flirt with recognizable truth. They leave their impact on a deeply emotional, but ultimately foriegn, level. The result is something like gobbling down a delicious Chinese dish and feeling hungry an hour later.

Not so with The Moderns... Rudolf cleverly blends his dream-like imagery with the myth of the Twenties' art world and ends up enhancing both.

2) Flambé a thick chunk of script in a stylized drama sauce.

Although such luminary relics as Hemingway are part of the story, it focuses on a fictitious painter named Nick Heart. Early on, he is persuaded to forge three paintings for a shifty divorcee in order to cheat her ex-husband. Meanwhile, a wealthy American collector parades into town with his strangely familiar wife.

The icing between these layers is a newspaper columnist who dreams of sunny Hollywood. To top the story off, Hemingway shows up occasionally in his Greek chorus-style role to interject bits of drunken perception.

The strength of the storyline is the interweaving of all these seemingly-unrelated characters. As in Choose Me (Rudolph's first major studio release), everyone has an influence on everyone, in the most subtle and delicious of ways.

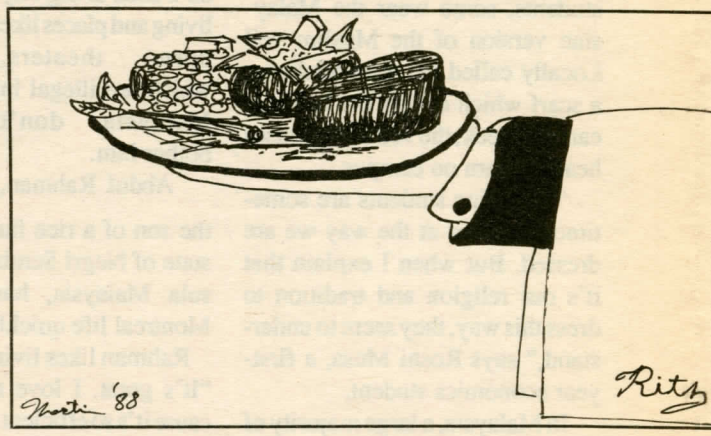
3) Stir vigorously with swooping cinematogra-phy.

Rudolf is a stunning and sensuous observer. His distinct vision comes across brilliantly in The Moderns. The first scene is particularly amazing: a cafe filled with mingling characters shot with painstaking detail.

Every off-glance is caught, every texture is felt, every voice heard - all by a camera flying through the room like a slow hawk. A cinematographer's equivalent to the first scene in a James Bond flick.

4) Boil over with spicy soundtrack.

Mark Isham, who has worked primarily with New Age music, teamed up with a group of jazz musicians and created a haunting, sumptious score.



fRIF

Wall of Grunge

dies" to describe this group.

"Many bands try too hard to be nasty," said Stenger, "we are as depressed as any other bunch of people in New York City, but we don't wear our angst on our sleeves."

The lyrics, written by Poss, may not be the focus of the music, but they are not meaningless extras either. Personal, sexual, and global politics are woven together in stream of consciousness style.

"The lyrics aren't very happy," said Stenger, "real emotions come through more when there is a contrast with the music."

The Band of Susans played at Foufounes to a small crowd last Sunday (September 11). It seemed to take them awhile to break the ice. Certainly, everything I had read or heard about them was true, **Karen Haglof** and **Page Hamilton** framed the rest of the band with furious and relentless guitars. Poss sang and pumped out even more guitar - but most of the instrument and his voice was washed in with the rest of the noise. The band was cool, presenting attitude without pretension.

There was little personal interaction, Poss didn't say much to the audience and the band as a whole barely seemed to notice we were there.

They looked as if they were too busy concentrating on the music, working for the point when their wall of grunge would crumble, drawing the audience into and beyond the music.

"Our main concern on stage is driving overtones, building guitar sound until a whole lot more comes through than what is actually being played," said Stenger.

This pinacle came with the song, *Hope Against Hope*. The sound, lights, rhythm, and vocals did actually mesh and become the textured entity I had read described so mystically.

I could hear riffs, chords and back-up tracks that I knew weren't there; I was drawn out of my reviewer's indifference and captivated. Even my grumbling companion was whooping and clapping by the end of the song. Unfortunately, this was also the end of their skimpy one-hour set. One couldn't help but feel a little cheated as they left the stage.

"I enjoyed the show, we had a lot of fun up there," Stenger said after the gig. Indeed, they were having fun. Stenger played up to **Ron Spitzer** on drums as well as to Poss and Hamilton. Both guitarists played their instruments like washboards while Poss thumped on his and Spitzer threw his sticks around. Stenger even ruffled some guy's hair as she went offstage.

"We are as depressed as any other bunch of people in New York City, but we don't wear our angst on our sleeves."

From here, the band has gone on to the mid-West and will tour Europe - England, Holland and Belguim - in October. When they return to New York, the Susans will start recording a new album with their revised line up. For the first time, Poss and Stenger will be collaborating to write the songs. But, Stenger assured me, "there will not be a drastic change in the sound of the band, we are all very devoted to sick guitar."

Poss, Spitzer and Stenger have known each other since their days at Amherst Central High school in Buffalo. They played in garage bands together but each followed their own diverse path after graduation. At 19, Stenger travelled to Prague to study flute. She moved to New York, went on to play in chamber groups, then to improvise and experiment with the sound of her instrument. "I was trying to counteract the pretty image of the flute".

Stenger always wanted to play bass, but she only took it up a few months before *Blessing and Curse* (the Susans first album), was recorded. For her, it was the most radical diversion she could make from the flute.

She noted that lots of women play bass, probably because "it fights the stereotype the most, playing an instrument that must be played really strongly or it won't work".

"The strongest political statement we can make is a band that has women and men in it and that we all do what we can. I think the best example for younger women artists is to see a band like ours."

CHEAP STUFF

HELL '88 - Orientation's last hurrah: CRSG's Band Night featuring The Nils, Sons of the Desert, Talk Shop, and Junior Gone Wild (from Edmonton). All happening on the 7th floor of the Hall building - doors open at 8:30pm and close at 11:30pm. Get more info at 848-7474. Four bands, five bucks.

Art In Jeopardy - Articule presents an exhibition of previously censored works to challenge the need for anti-pornography legislation. Running everyday this week 'till Sunday, noon - 5 pm, at 4060 St. Laurent, #106. 842-9686.

PERFO 1 - 12 performance art 'transformations of time and space' over four hours. One night only - Friday, Sept. 23, 8:30 pm. UQAM's Studio D'essai Claude Gauvreau (St. Denis and de Maisonneuve), room J-2020. $3 & $6. 521-0547.

Active Process - 50 "photography books of the eighties" created by American and Canadian artists. Displayed at Dazibao centre de photographies actuelle, 4060 St. Laurent, espace 104. 845-0063.

African Art - Galerie Amrad presents an exhibition of distinctive Asante stools from Ghana. Continues until September 30 at 1522 Sherbrooke W. #4, (just around the corner from the Hall building. 934-4550.

Half Japanese - A band from the USA at the Cafe Campus (3315 Ch. Queen Mary, 735-1259) Wednesday, Sept. 28. Free.

Samedi de Rire - Monday, Sept. 26, 20h00. Spectrum (318 St. Catherine W, 861-5851). Free.

Edda Bissinger - playing music for guitar. Wednesday, Sept. 21, 8pm. McGill's Pollack Concert Hall - 555 Sherbrooke W, 398-4547. Free admission.

Arts Westmount 1988 - opening ceremony featuring a Japanese Percussion band and Mayor May Cutler. Monday, Sept. 26, 7:30pm at Victoria Hall (4626 Sherbrooke W., metro Vendome). All events are free.

Partying with Lillian

by rude ras

What *Lillian Allen* does on record, she does even better on stage.

At Club Soda last Friday, Allen put on one of the best reggae shows of the season, playing her hard but danceable music.

She performed her dub poetry as well as some of her non-musical poems. Most impressive was an untitled poem based on jazz beats where she was making incredible jazz sounds vocally.

Her words are far from empty. She sings about politics — immigrants, women, apartheid, — and she gives the crowd an opportunity to have a good time as well.

The band did not look like your typical reggae band. They looked more like "regular Toronto musicians," all dressed in artsy black. They were her studio band including *Billy Bryans* on drums and Montreal's *Assar Santana* playing percussion. To add to the fun of the evening, two members of the local band, *Kali and Dub Inc.*, joined Allen on stage during her encore.

Perhaps due to the popularity of Kali and Dub Inc.'s video "Home Livin'," Allen has begun to think seriously of making a video from her latest record, "Conditions Critical".

Conditions Critical has been popular wherever it has received airplay. It was the most sucessful album in the history of the California-based Redwood label.

In Canada, both of Allen's albums are released on her own record label, Verse to Vinyl.

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BASH

CONCORDIA GOES WILD

by B. B. Bunny

It's time to boogie on down to Hell children.

The last hurrah of this year's orientation, the Hell Bash will prove to be the event we were all waiting for. It will feature an unforgettable line up of bands: *Talk Shop*, *Sons of the Desert*, *Junior Gone Wild* and ***the Nils*** for only $5 (and beer for $1.75), this is one student-subsidized event that's well worth your CUSA fee.

Starting the night off will be Montreal's ***Talk Shop.*** Formed 2 years ago, Talk Shop perform a mix of funk, reggae and pop mixed with grinding straight ahead rock 'n' roll.

Composed of **Ani Bodi** on bass and backing vocals, **Renée** on rhythm, lead guitar and vocals, and **Claudi-Ah** *on drums, Talk Shop is tired of being stereo*typed as just another all-girl or Bangles-type band.

As Claudi-Ah puts it, "just because we're all women doesn't mean our music should be judged differently. It's funny, you know, you have guys come up to you after the show and say things like,'You play good... for a girl.' We just laugh it off," but they still find it annoying and short-sighted of those fans who see them in this way.

Although the band is not quite ready to release an album just now, Claudi-Ah said they have done some four-track recording. The band is working on some new tunes which we'll probably hear this Saturday.

As Claudi-Ah says, "This is who we are and I hope you like our music."

Next on stage will be another Montreal band, ***Sons of the Desert.*** The Sons of the Desert are composed of Naomi on lead vocals, Maureen Bradley on bass, Neil Stewart on keyboards, Al Ghoullen on lead guitar, and Jimmy on drums. A mere two weeks ago they played for an enthusiastic bunch at McGill. "The crowd really got into our stuff," said Neil, a Communication Studies student at Concordia.

The Sons have been gigging for a couple of years now and have grown into a tight, professional troupe of entertainers with a catchy brand of pop raunch. According to Neil the band will be heading in a slightly different direction in the coming months, a more rocky one. "We're more into songwriting than noise," he said.

They will also be releasing their first video, Wet Dream, this Oct. 1st, mostly produced by bassist Maureen Bradley.

As for the show, "we've been jamming a lot and intend on producing a straight forward rocking set with no gimmicks," assured Neil.

Next up from the musical Sahara called Edmonton is **Junior Gone Wild.**

Junior has been labelled "the hardest working band in show business." It consists of Terry Cox on guitar, Dave "Dove" Brown on bass and two new members. Mike MacDonald is singing and Paul "Duke" Paetz, formerly with *Jerry Jerry*, is playing drums. The old members, Ed "Sparky" Bobek and Dave Lawson we're given the boot for drunkenness. All their hard work has paid off big in the form of fantastic reviews of their first offering, *Less Art, More Pop* .

When they last played Montreal - to a capacity crowd - they completely blew away the audience. The band had them dancing around like a bunch of maniacs - which comes as no surprise when you consider what Reargarde had to say, "Junior Gone Wild blew me away. They're punk in a fun Ramones-type way, kind of the way the Beatles would of sounded if they'd gone to Amsterdam in 1961 and taken lots of drugs instead of going to Germany and drinking lots of beer."

As for the band itself, "We like the idea of songs with verses and choruses - something people can sing along to and dance to," says Dove, "I guess you could say we're a band that doesn't have a statement to make - and we're proud of it. They're aren't many of us."

To finish off the night Montreal's ***the Nils*** will be hitting us with their own brand of nuclear rock 'n' roll.

After being around since 1978 (*ten years*!), the Nils have honed their act to squeaky clean perfection. Consisting of Carlos Soria on rhythm guitar, his younger brother Alex doing lead vocals and guitar, Guy "Chico" Caron on bass and Jean Lortie (ex of SCUM) on drums, the Nils can trace their origins back to the heydays of punk - the early seventies.

Originally inspired by the **Sex Pistols'** *Never Mind the Bollocks* the Nils managed to snare Chris Spedding, who worked on some Sex Pistols demo tapes, as the producer for their first full length LP, *The Nils*. With the help of Spedding, the Nils produced a polished, tight and guttural album which won rave reviews from the music industry here and in the States.

As one reviewer said, "I didn't think bands had it in them to write decent lyrics anymore, but here comes the Nils to restore rapidly fading confidence. Like a cool refreshing sensation of a York Peppermint Pattie, ya know?"

The Nils are used to praise, having won over the press when they toured with *Joan Jett & the Blackhearts*, *X*, *Nick Lowe* and the *Ramones* in the past. After all this great exposure, they expected to sign with a major label, but as Alex explains, "It was as if we'd been overlooked. We toured with big name acts, we got great press coverage, but no one seemed to notice."

Unbeknownst to Alex, New York concert promoter Chris Williamson had taken notice. Williamson set them up at one of his famous "Rock Hotel at the Ritz" shows in New York City and immediately signed them to his Rock Hotel Records label.

Not that the boys don't like to have a good time, but with their thought-provoking and intelligent lyrics it's no wonder they reached Number One on the college charts here in Canada and Number Eight in the States.

When asked if they would be attending last Saturday's Amnesty Show, Carlos replied, "It's too expensive. We'd rather spend our money on drinking." What's this got to do with the show you ask? Nothing. But, like the Nils, we're all interested in a good, inexpensive time, and this Saturday's Hell Bash will be just that.

The Hell Bash, presented by Hell '88 and the forces of Darkness will be happening this Saturday September 24th in the 7th floor cafeteria of the Hall Building, 1455 deMaisonneuve West, Mackay street entrance. Tix are **$5** for **4** bands. Doors open at 8:30 pm and close at 11:30 pm! Call 848-7474 for more info.

And remember, as Carlos says, "It'll be a good show."

Letters

The Link welcomes your letters. Letters should not exceed 400 words and may be edited for length, grammar spelling, or racist, sexist or homophobic content. All letters must be typed, double spaced and signed, and must include a phone number—not for publiaction but for verification.

Dodos make a booboo

to the editors,

I am pleased to note your postscript editorials have gone the way of the Dodo - there's no place on the Letters page for them. A responsible newspaper has to be receptive to all opinions, even those (especially those) which contradict the editorial policy of the paper. The letters page of a newspaper should contain no extraneous comments, just the ideas found in the original letters.

Unfortunately, it seems you can't keep your hands out of the pot. Take, for example, two entries to your Letters page, Sept. 6. "Our first letter", a decidedly un-sympathetic proposal for *the Link*, was sprinkled liberally with insulting "Sic" comments, plainly marking grammatic errors for all to see.

On the other hand, "Message from a co-president", which for the most part espouses the virtues of your newspaper, was handled with kid gloves, although it had nearly as many grammatic and syntactic errors as the former, and was more than twice your accepted letter length. Clearly, you employed a double-standard while 'editing' these letters.

As Letters editor, you should provide a forum for dissenting ideas, completely free from editorial comment by the paper. Your job is neither to mock nor to ignore grammatic errors, but to correct them, without changing the basic arguments of the letter. Your record is very poor; if you want to win the respect of the student population you will have to do much better.

Donald Dagenais

to the editors,

I have a question for the people at *the Link*. Is it that everyone who criticizes your paper or any article therein is illiterate or incapable of spelling? It seems that everytime I read a non-complimentary letter from a reader it is full of spelling and/or grammatical errors. The people whose opinions match those of the editors seem to have no problems of this sort.

Are you trying to discredit anyone that does not agree with you by leaving in their errors and pointing them out with a big "sic", while, at the same time editing and correcting errors in the letters that conform to your way of thinking? I'm looking forward to seeing if I've made any mistakes.

Ann Franklin

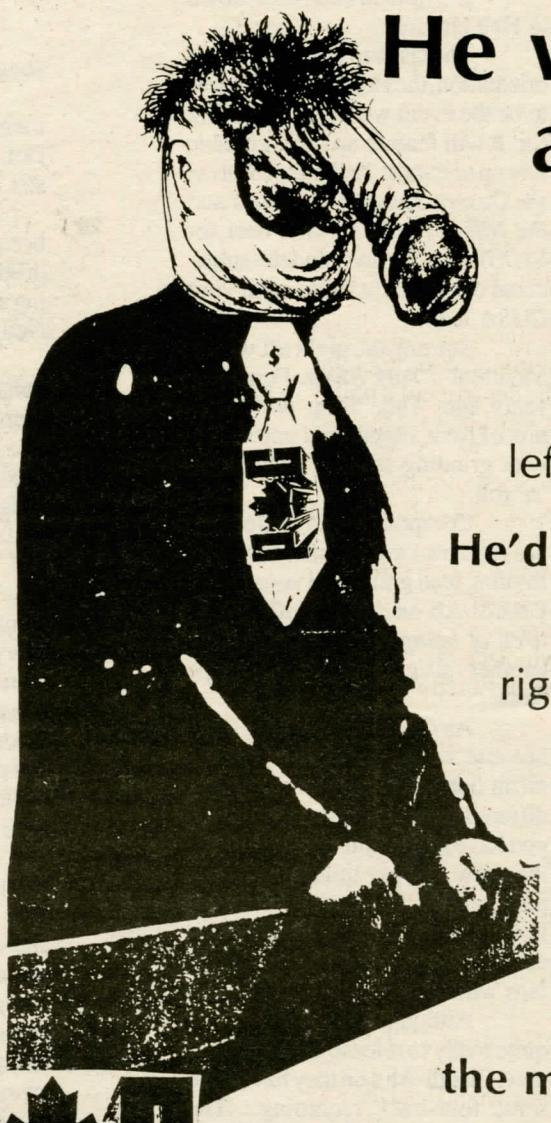
CUSA Questioned

to the editors,

Why is CUSA going out of its way to support an organisation led by a person whose views are both racist and sexist? I refer to *the Link* article "CUSA backs sign petition" (Sept. 6) in which the coordinator of the CUSA-suported group Entente Cordiale is quoted saying: "On the one hand, Quebecers want nationalism. Then the women scream for abortion and you don't have a high birth rate anymore so you have to bring in the Haitians."

While this person is certainly entitled to his opinion, I would question the soundness of a group which allows its leader to speak to the press in such an ill-informed, racist and sexist manner. I think the CUSA board of directors who voted to support the group Entente Cordiale owe me and other students an explanation of why they are backing a group whose leader is publically expressing views contrary to CUSA's own policy.

Susan O'Donnell



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Concordia University
Montreal, Quebec

Volume 9, Number 5
Tuesday, September 20, 1988

the Link

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Montreal, Que. H3G 1M8
Telephone: 848-7405
Advertising: 848-7406

The Link is published every Tuesday and Friday during the academic year by The Link Publication Society inc. Content is independent of the university and CUSA. Editorial policy is set by an elected board as provided for in *the Link* constitution. Current member of the board is Robert Allnutt. (A General Assembly will be held in October to elect the rest of the board.) Any student is welcome to join *the Link* and become a voting staff member. **Mailing address is: 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Montreal, Quebec, H3G 1M8.** For national advertising *the Link* is a member of Campus Plus (Canadian University Press Media Services Limited), 124 Merton St., Toronto, Ontario, M4S 2Z2. Phone: (416) 481-7283. Typesetting by *the Link*. Printed by Inter-Hauf Developments. ***The Link* is a member of Canadian University Press. and the Ontario Community Newspapers Association.**

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Editorial

PASSING THE PCB BUCK

"The patient dies while the physician sleeps;
The orphan pines while the oppressor feeds;
Justice is feasting while the widow weeps;
Avarice is sporting while infection breeds."
— William Shakespeare

Does the university have something to hide?

Last week, the occupational health and safety office refused to let the Link review the Hazardous Waste Committee minutes.

One would think that in the wake of the PCB disaster in St. Basile le Grand last month, the university would open its doors to the scrutiny of the press and let students and faculty know that it is storing and using PCBs on campus.

Yet the university has remained silent about this fact. Worse, the administration has reacted with secrecy to the toxic dilemma that is threatening all areas of the university community. At least one senior administrator has privately questioned the need to keep the minutes confidential.

The occupational health and safety office is supposed to ensure a safe Concordia environment. The office is supposed to make improvements to campus buildings to achieve that end. Most important, the department should notify the public of any potential health dangers that lurk on campus.

But at the plush and safe Bishop Court offices, where the department is located, officials prefer to let university environmental problems fester. Finally, the PCB problem has exposed the department's policy of passivity. First of all, this office claimed it was unaware that the university was using PCBs in electrical equipment. Even though the provincial and federal governments recently urged institutions to check if they were storing PCBs, certain administrators decided against PCB inspections.

Secondly, this office decided against contacting the government to plan a course of action. Again, certain administrators assumed that PCBs on campus pose no health threat to students.

Thirdly, this office was unaware that the provincial government has recently passed legislation requiring the removal of stored PCBs from buildings by February.

This inaction should not be excused as an oversight. Other examples call into question the competency of the occupational health and safety office.

Its co-ordinator, Mary Baldwin, has consistently demonstrated her callousness towards serious campus health problems. For years, she made every effort to thwart non-smoking legislation on campus, even though smoking has long been considered one of the worst occupational health hazards.

Even worse than Baldwin's smug, fence-sitting nature is her rudeness, inaccessibility and the secrecy of her office. She treats her department as a personal fiefdom and seems to regard complaints as an unwelcome intrusion into her domain.

One would expect that, of all places, a university would lead the way in environmental responsibility.

Most alarming about this situation has been the reaction of the university to repeated *Link* enquiries about PCBs since school began. Several Concordia officials were asked whether the university was storing PCBs or doing PCB research on campus.

The answers were vague, inconsistent and deceptive. Every official asked denied the toxic chemical compound was stored on campus. Finally, on Friday, the university admitted that PCBs were indeed being stored on campus.

Why, then, did so many officials who should have known deny the existence of the PCBs?

Either they were unaware of the situation or they were lying. In either case, heads should roll!

An immediate full-scale inquiry should be called to review the university's occupational health policies and the events of the last two weeks. Questions must be answered.

Join the Link.

You can't run a student paper without students.

Room 649 in the Hall Building.

Comment

"I'd Rather be in Philadelphia"

James McClean

Cars are polluting the enviroment. There is little argument that can go with that. They are. Everytime I walk down St. Catherine street, or ride my bicylcle to school I can feel myself being poisoned by carbon monoxide and other toxic fumes. What can be done? I'll tell you:

To begin with, there is no doubt that people need to get around. Cars, however, are a relatively new idea. Do car owners need their car? What did they do before they had a car? I'm not advocating a return to the horse and carriage, but perhaps a banning of automobiles in cities and residential areas. Public tranportation can be used to effectively get any car-owners from point A to point B. Even for inter-city transportation we have trains and airplanes. For out-of-the-way places that aren't yet serviced by what would be an up-graded public transport system, a government subsidized taxi service would be all the automobiles we need. These taxis would, in turn, be phased out as the public system is improved. If you car-owners really wanted to, you could give up your automobile and make the air safe to breathe again. If not, we could pass a law making, say, Northern Alberta a designated car driving area. Cars don't need to be a way of life, and you're only hurting yourselllf as well as others.

Would you like to live in Northern Alberta?

***

Cigarette smoke is poluting the enviroment. There is no doubt about that. It is. Everytime I go to the Campus Center games room or to the third floor for a dance, I can feel myself being poisoned by carbon monoxide and other toxic fumes. What can be done? I'll tell you:

To begin with, there is no doubt that people need to relax and enjoy themselves. Smoking, however, is a relatively new idea. Do smokers need their cigarettes? What did they do before they had cigarettes? I'm not advocating a return to the idealistic days in which all you needed was a glass of milk and a few comforting words from mom, but perhaps a banning of smoking from all public buildings and property. Nicotine gum can be used to effectivley keep any smoker from 'lighting up'. Even for heavy smokers there is hypnosis and shock-teatment, and for the people who can't afford the gum or other methods, a government subsidized supply of pressurized second-hand smoke can be used for them to inhale. These smoke-supplies would, in turn, be phased out as those people died off. If you smokers really wanted to, you could give up your cigarettes and make the air safe to breathe again. If not, we could pass a law making, say, Windsor, Ontario a designated smoking city. Smoking doesn't need to be a way of life, and you're hurting yourself, as well as others.

Would you want to live in Windsor?

***

Smokestacks are polluting...HOLD IT!!

Silly? Yes. Out of hand? Yes, my point exactly.

As an individual, I cannot stand back and look at the evolution of any given society and decide that they've made a mistake, and procede to dictate change. As a member of this society, I must work within it to affect a reasonable and useful compromise. By the same token, I cannot look at the individuals, decide they've made an error in their personal lifestyle, and dictate that they change. This is part of the foundation that we work from within our society; that everyone works together to find a certain level of compromise.

As a member of the Con. U. society I feel excluded from this basic process. I thought that the division of the Loyola campus-centre ground floor for smoking and non-smoking was a reasonable compromise; I saw no indication suggesting the contrary. I was not aware of anyone choking, wheezing or complaining about the fact that I was inhaling my personal favourite choice of toxins whilst sitting in the former smoking area. If any of these people would care to make themselves known to me by writing a response to this paper, I'd be more than glad to apologize and find myself a pack of Nicotine gum. As well, please inform me as to how you have managed to live so long without ever once unnecessarily adding one particle of pollution to the enviroment we both live in. I'm more than willing to be educated.

Finally, I ask the Clean Air Coalition nad CUSA to reinstate the smoking area in the campus-center second floor. After-all smoking is, for a lot of people, like cars; a part of their way of life, a part of their identity. It is not a malicious attempt to poison anyone, nor is it something we do for which we should be treated like second class citizens. Stop the dramatic segregation! I like this university, I would like to think everyone can feel welcome here.

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con't from pg. 6

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con't on pg. 8

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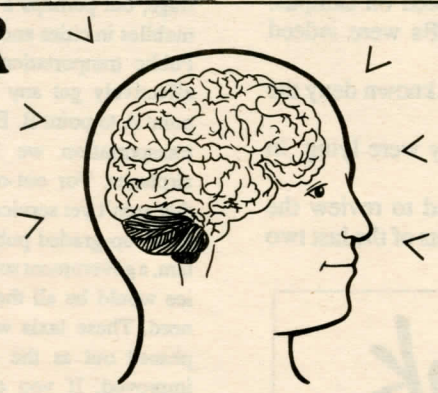

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Life in the Royal Marines

Of wazzer eggs, oppoes and yaffling spanners

Alan Sharpe is a second-year student in the Peace and Conflict Studies Program at the University of Toronto. He joined the Royal Marines at age 16 and served nine years, including two tours of duty in Northern Ireland and active service in the Falkland Islands/Malvinas war.

By Alan Sharpe
reprinted from the Varsity
Canadian University Press

"Put all your kit (equipment) on the deck!" yells the instructor. "Stop acting like a bunch of brown-hatters (homosexuals) and start switching on! (thinking)," shouts another.

To the civilian, each instructor looks frighteningly fit and good at what he does. He also speaks a language the recruit has never heard before.

The British Royal Marines need nine months to turn civilian men into fully-trained fighters (there are no women in the Corps).

When he first steps off the train at the Commando Training Centre in Devon, the civilian is met by the training team and the person who appears to be in charge assure the new arrivals that he is reasonable and fair.

"I'm Sergeant Madsen, your TL (training leader)," he says, "and I'm the one who is going to turn you from nods (recruits) into bootnecks (Royal Marines). I'm a wazzer egg (great guy) and a good run-ashore (night on the town). You play ball with me and I'll hit you over the head with a cricket bat."

The civilian may not realize it yet but he has just discovered the language of the Royal Marines. In nine months, if he is not part of the 70 per cent who fail commando training, he will have mastered this specialized language and the language will have mastered him.

The civilian now has short hair, wears a uniform and the training structures his life, but these conditions he expected. It takes more time to get used to the new way he must speak.

He is now in "The Corps" — one of the Royal Navy's soldiers. Even on dry land, nautical terminology is mandatory. He sweeps the deck, not the floor. He goes to the galley (kitchen) at scran time (meal time) with his yaffling spanners (knife, fork, etc.) in order to get Harry toppers (very full). He sleeps in his pit and, in the morning, he no longer gets dressed, he puts on his rig.

Surrounded daily by the language, the recruit finds it the only method of communication. The idiosyncrasies of the Royal Marines must be accepted. To do otherwise is folly.

"What is this in the gash can, Sharpe?" asks the instructor (a gash can is a shallow chrome garbage can used in barrack rooms).

"It's garbage, Sergeant," replies Sharpe.

"Give me 20 good ones (push-ups), Sharpe. Now, what is this in the gash can?"

"Oh, it's gash, Sergeant," says Sharpe, panting.

"And what is it doing in the gash can, Sharpe?"

This is the puzzling part. "Well," says Sharpe, his mind racing, "it's gash ... so I put it in .. the gash can, Sergeant."

"We don't put gash in the gash can, Sharpe. It has to be gleaming-spankers-clean every time I walk into this room; do you understand?"

"Yes, Sergeant," says Sharpe, lying.

Eventually, the recruit understands that his life is not his own anymore. He moves closer to becoming someone who no longer thinks like an autonomous individual but like a Royal Marines.

By deciding to stay, the recruit now identifies more with the Royal Marines than with civilian life. He calls those out of uniform "dumb civvies," calls a night on the town a "run-ashore," and when going out with his buddies ("oppos") to meet women ("parties") he talks not of picking them up but of "going trapping."

He now longer just dresses and talks like a Royal Marine, he begins to feel like one.

Upon completing training, the Royal Marine is posted to a commando unit of 800 men where he generally serves as a rifleman in a section of eight. The language no longer serves to shape him but to keep him apart from civilians and other services.

In the Falklands, he dehumanizes the Argentine enemy by saying he is going to "frag some spics" with fragmentation grenades. In Northern Ireland, when an IRA terrorist blows himself up, he calls it a "home goal," after the soccer phrase for players who score into their own net by mistake.

But unlike defense intellectuals and nuclear war strategists, the Royal Marine uses little abstraction to distance himself from the reality of war.

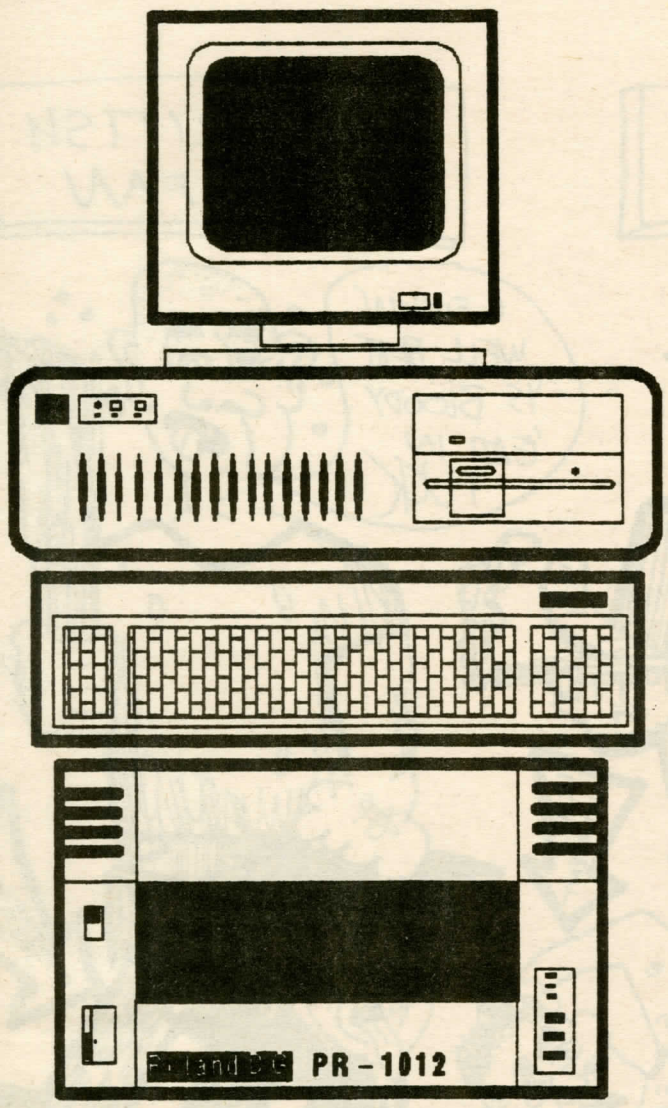
He refers to enemy gun positions as being "destroyed by friendly (his) artillery fire," not as having been taken out. When artillery falls on the ground, he does not call the spread of boms the footprint but "the killing area." Innocent civilians killed in the line of fire aren't collateral damage, they are "civilian casualties."

While he is in the Corps, the Royal Marine's language makes him feel part of a small, tightly-knit community of like-minded men.

They dress, act and think the same. He is part of the team. He travels the world. He is paid well. He is admired by his parents, respected other armed services and feared by his enemies — as long as he remains "inside," walking the walk and talking the talk.

To most, leaving the Corps, or "getting outside," is unpleasant. Back in civilian life, the ex-Royal Marine begins putting his feet on the floor, not the deck, and starts dating women, not trapping girls.

All ex-Royal Marine quickly stop using the old language. But none, at least none very quickly, can stop thinking the way they used to, for they have mastered the language and the language has mastered them.



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Sportsbeat

Redmen clobber Stingers 34-7

Second football loss

by Sylvain Bouchard

The Stingers didn't stand a chance.

After a disappointing loss against Bishops last week, the Stingers had to contend with the 1987 national champion McGill Redmen Saturday afternoon.

Playing before a rain-drenched, gung-ho crowd and a national television audience, the Redmen trounced the Stingers 34-7 and won the Shaugnessy Cup — Montreal's university football supremacy symbol. Skip Rochette's crew spent most of the afternoon trying to figure out a way to stop the "Big Red Machine" but didn't come up with a clue.

Led by All-Canadian runningback Mike Soles, who rushed for 108 yards, the Redmen — who seem to be headed for a repeat of its national championship win — sailed to a easy victory.

Concordia's misfortune began in the first quarter.

The Stinger's defensive-back Stephane Chapados intercepted McGill QB Bryan Fuller's very first pass. But the Stingers did not capitalize on the play.

Concordia's only shining moment came just as McGill took a 7-0 lead on a 12-yard pass with a 55-yard punt return by John DiLagge which put the score at 7-7.

But the Stingers hopes were washed away as the rain started to come down. Back-to-back injuries hit the Stingers.

Defensive linemen Stephane Monette and Peter Matvij's bruises gave McGill's ground offense the opportunity to put the game away. With a rather shaky defense and a struggling QB Ron Aboud, the Redmen made it 21-7 by halftime.

The second half was nothing for the Stingers to write home about either.

A 66-yard play by McGill's Gerry Ifill and two field goals from super-kicker Chuck Petitpas wrapped up the Shaughnessy Cup.

Although the Stingers did not go down without a fight, you can bet that they are looking forward to making amends before Canadian viewers the next time around.

In fact, they'll return the favour to McGill, visiting them at Molson Stadium for the Shrine Bowl on Saturday, Oct. 1.

In the meantime, Skip Rochette's squad will concentrate on their next game, as they travel to Ottawa next Saturday to face the Carleton Ravens.

Photo by Jeff Halfrecht

Storm clouds set the tone for Concordia's football defeat.

Photo by Alvin Macintyre

One of many Sherbrooke injuries during Sunday's game.

Lack of unity disables defense

by Brad Hertz

Concordia's soccer team had a hard time finding their pace Sunday, losing to Sherbrooke 2-1.

The Stingers were ahead at the twenty minute point in the very physical confrontation on a goal casually scored by Maged Loka.A lack of unity in the defense, contributed to the first of the two Sherbrooke goals.

Algerian-born forward Raneme Bouras directed a free kick into the goal at the twenty-five minute mark to tie the score.

The second of the Sherbrooke goals came thirty-four minutes into play as Senegalese right forward Olympio Dieme pushed the ball past the Stingers keeper.

Concordia players took the deficit in stride, moving the ball well in the open areas and neutralizing the Sherbrooke attack.

After several confident rushes at the Sherbrooke goal the Stingers finally put the ball past the keeper, but the picturesque bicycle kick executed by mid-fielder Mike Baker — which would have tied the score at two — was nullified by a questionable call in the box.

Vladimir Pavlicik, head coach of the Stingers, said that his players were more cohesive in the second half and the mistakes made were due to the team having played only one game together.

"They finished strong so conditioning is not in question, we have over seventy per cent rookies in our starting line-up, so it takes time," Pavlicik said.

Sherbrooke team coach Georges Laurent noticed the change in Stinger's play. "They are playing more open, more organised, a different style," Laurent said.

The Sherbrooke side also has a majority of rookies with only four returning players on their eighteen-man roster.

The team now has two wins.

Sherbrooke is now two of two in Quebec league play.Concordia meets McGill at Loyola field next Sunday at 2 pm.

Kung Fu comes to Concordia

by Francois Pham

Concordia students looking for something new and exciting to addto their extra-curricular activities this semester will have an opportunity in White Crane Kung Fu.

White Crane Kung Fu was introduced to Concordia University six years ago by Augustine Ngu, then head instructor at Montreal's Shaolin White Crane Kung Fu School.

Through a special arrangement with Concordia's athletic department, classes will be held at the White Crane Kung Fu school in Old Montreal.

This will be the first year students will have the opportunity to train in a real Kung Fu studio.

Training in the martial arts is not only for fighting but also for learning about personal strengths and weaknesses and for building character.

One of the highest skills in martial arts is to be able to calmly defend oneself in unexpected situations. This is a sharp contrast to some Western fighting sports such as boxing, where fighters have to get "psyched up" before a bout.

Breathing and meditation exercices known as "internal training" in Kung Fu are also taught.

While this type of training may first appear as boring to the neophyte, its long-term benefits include relaxation and concentration which are important to the succesful handling of a self-defense situation.

Classes begin during the week of Monday, Sept. 19.

For information call 848-3860.

Sports Trivia

1-Which of the following NHL American players has once won the Hobey-Baker trophy,awarded to NCAA hockey's player of the year??
a) Bobby Carpenter(Wash.-N.Y.R.-L.A.)
b) Brian Lawton(Minnesota)
c) Tom Kurvers(Mtl-Buf-N.J.)
d) Chris Chelios(Montreal)

2-Who among those NBA stars was NOT a first overall draft pick?

a) Chicago's Michael Jordan
b) New York's Patrick Ewing
c) Cleveland's Brad Daugherty
d) San Antonio's David Robinson

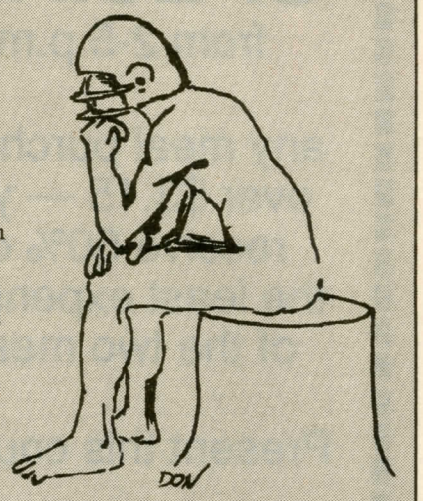
3-In 1979-80-81,3 pitchers from the same team were proclamed rookies of the year,one after the other.Who were they?

a) Minnesota's Bert Blyleven,Frank Viola,and Ron Davis
b) L.A.'s Rick Sutcliffe,Steve Howe,and Fernando Valenzuela
c) N.Y.Yankees's Rich Gossage,Ron Guidry,and Dave Righetti

4- Which NFL teams were in 1983's Super Bowl?

a) San-Francisco VS Miami (Dolphins won)
b) Dallas Vs Pittsburgh (Cowboys won)
c) Cincinnati VS Minnesota (Vikings won)
d) Los Angeles VS Washington (Raiders won)

5- When was the last all-Canadian Stanley Cup final? Which teams were there? Who won the Cup? In how many games?



Trivia Answers]
(Sept.13th issue)

1-b
2-c
3-d
4-a2,b4,c1,d3
5-b

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TONY CAMPOLO

Sunday, September 25th, 7:15pm

FILM 3 *THE VALUE OF FAMILY RITUALS AND TRADITIONS*
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Wednesday, September 21st, 7:15pm

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